

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 VO-03 SCA-01 /077 W
-----011638Z 023582 /43

R 011301Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3571
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION BERLIN UNN
USMISSION NATO
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, CSCE, RO
SUBJECT: ROMANIAN DISSIDENTS

REF: BUCHAREST 3400 (NOTAL)

1. EMBASSY HAS VERIFIED MAY 20 DEPARTURE FOR FRANCE OF
SERBAN STEFANESCU, ONE OF ORIGINAL EIGHT SIGNATORIES OF
GOMA'S MANIFESTO WHO WAS SUBSEQUENTLY SENTENCED TO ONE
YEAR OF UNSKILLED LABOR AT BUCHAREST CEMENT FACTORY
(BUCHAREST A-40 OF MAY 2, 1977). HIS FIANCEE ACCOMPANIED
HIM ON A TOURIST PASSPORT. PARIS-BASED COMMITTEE FOR THE
DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN ROMANIA HAD PREVIOUSLY
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ORGANIZED SERIES OF DEMONSTRATIONS URGING THEIR
RELEASE. IN ADDITION, TWO OTHERS WHO WERE SENTENCED
WITH SERBANESCU HAVE ALSO LEFT ROMANIA RECENTLY.

2. EMBOFF WAS ALSO TOLD LAST WEEK BY WELL-KNOWN
CRIMINAL LAWYER CONSTANTIN VISINESCU THAT HE HAD
MANAGED TO OVERTURN SENTENCE OF COMPULSORY LABOR AT

CEMENT FACTORY FOR ANOTHER MEMBER OF GROUP. VISINESCU CHALLENGED SENTENCE ON BASIS OF PARA IN LAW WHICH STATES THAT JOB ASSIGNED MUST BE IN ACCORD WITH A PERSON'S QUALIFICATIONS. SINCE HIS CLIENT POSSESSED AN ADVANCED ACADEMIC DEGREE, A TRANSFER TO MORE APPROPRIATE WORK WAS ARRANGED.

3. ALSO, FOR THE RECORD, EMBOFF LAST WEEKEND SAW AUTHOR PAUL GOMA, HIS WIFE AND CHILD OUT FOR STROLL. CIRCUMSTANCES WERE SUCH THAT NO CONVERSATION WAS POSSIBLE. HOWEVER, GOMA APPEARED IN GOOD PHYSICAL CONDITION. VLAD GEORGESCU TOLD AMBASSADOR MAY 31 THAT HE UNDERSTOOD GOMA WAS UNDER A "SUSPENDED SENTENCE", ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT SPECIFY NATURE OF CHARGES. GEORGESCU ALSO REMARKED THAT ALTHOUGH HE HAD NOT YET SEEN HIM, HE HAD BEEN TOLD THAT PSYCHIATRIST ION VIANU WAS STILL HOPEFUL OF OBTAINING A PASSPORT.

4. COMMENT: WITH RECENT RELEASE OF GEORGESCU AND DEPARTURE OF STEFANESCU, GOR POLICY HAS SEEMINGLY RETURNED TO STATUS QUO ANTE APRIL 1. NONE OF THE LEADING PERSONALITIES INVOLVED IN EITHER RELIGIOUS OR INTELLECTUAL DISSENT ARE NOW BEING DETAINED, ALTHOUGH WE ASSUME THAT ALL ARE KEPT UNDER TIGHT SURVEILLANCE. AS NOTED IN BUCHAREST 3400, GOR TACTICS APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN ISOLATING DISSIDENTS FROM EACH OTHER. HOWEVER, IF BAPTIST DISSIDENT PAVEL NICOLESCU'S RECENT REMARKS TO EMBOFF (BUCHAREST 3912) ARE ANY INDICATION, BAPTISTS APPEAR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO HAVE COME OUT OF CONFRONTATION SOMEWHAT BETTER THAN INTELLECTUALS. NEVERTHELESS, CEAUSESCU HAS MADE CLEAR HIS DETERMINATION TO MAINTAIN TIGHT INTERNAL CONTROL, AND NOW APPEARS WILLING TO PAUSE AND SEE IF LESSON HAS SUNK IN.
BARNES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRISONERS RELEASE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 01-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BUCHAR04021
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770195-0191
Format: TEL
From: BUCHAREST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197706104/aaaadmyv.tel
Line Count: 103
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1f059e73-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BUCHAREST 3400
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2006496
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ROMANIAN DISSIDENTS
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, RO, US, CSCE, (STEFANESCU, SERBAN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1f059e73-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009